



G-5's "Eye on AMC"

U.S. Army Materiel Command

Essential in Peace, Indispensable in War

November 12, 2004

Unmanned aircraft gain starring role in terror war

Unmanned aerial vehicles are earning star status in the global war on terror, becoming the most-requested capability among combatant commanders in Southwest Asia and increasing fourfold in the theater during the last year alone, according to the deputy director of the Pentagon's UAV planning task force.

Dyke Weatherington told the American Forces Press Service that UAVs are topping combatant commanders' wish lists. During the past year alone, UAVs' numbers in Iraq have jumped from less than 100 to more than 400.

"We've seen a huge growth in the total numbers of UAVs in the theater, with most of that growth in the area of small UAVs," he said. "There's a lot of capability over there today, and frankly, the Warfighter is asking for more."

What makes UAVs so valuable, Weatherington said, is their ability to provide eyes in the sky for extended periods of time, beaming real-time images to the ground.

"In the global war on terror, persistence is vitally important," he said. "It's important to deny the enemy sanctuary. And constant surveillance in his backyard, so to speak, prevents him the opportunity to mass assets and forces."

In the event the enemy does this, UAVs offer an additional capability beyond their traditional intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance role, Weatherington said. Now they're demonstrating a strike capability as well.

Weatherington, whose office coordinates all military UAV initiatives and programs, said there's no single, one-size-fits-all formula for UAVs. Different systems are more readily adaptable to different missions, providing capabilities from the squad or company level to the division or corps level, to the theater level.

"It's the integration of all those capabilities that make them advantageous," he said. "The integration of those systems is what provides very persistence surveillance capabilities."

- Information from the American Forces Information Service

AMC plays key role in Army Small Business Conference

The Army Materiel Command is hosting the 8th Annual Small Business Conference Nov. 16 to 17 in McLean, Va. The conference is the only yearly event specifically aimed at all of the Army's small business contractors.

The small business event brings together leaders of the industry small business community, the Small Business Administration, and the Army to discuss timely topics, including recent changes affecting small businesses. Participants include key Army decision makers from the Pentagon to field commanders who conduct acquisitions.

The conference will also provide opportunities for dialogue between small business leaders and key government officials during the Business Opportunities Fair. Representatives from the Army's major buying commands and the top 50 large business defense contractors will be present to discuss future opportunities for small businesses in their respective commands and firms.

In addition, several officials will be making remarks including Hon. Claude M. Bolton, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology); Hon. Hector V. Barreto, administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration; and Gen. Benjamin S. Griffin, AMC commanding general.

Did you know...

The Communications-Electronics Command Reset/Depot Level Repair Team at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait has recovered, captured and expedited shipment of \$207 million dollars worth of CECOM equipment to several U.S. depot repair facilities. The team has also coordinated with repair facilities in theater allowing CECOM supply items, electronics, radios, and avionics to be repaired and re-issued for use in theater.

Just recently, the team recovered eight, brand new CYZ-10 COMSEC secure filling devices. The devices will go to a Marine unit and Army signal unit that are currently in theater.